

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 50 and amend claims 28, 36 and 51 as follows (a complete listing of the claims is provided below pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121):

Claim 1. (Cancelled).

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim
2 28, further comprising the step of anchoring the group of filaments at or near a proximal
3 end of the core member before winding the group of filaments onto the core member.

1 3. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim 2,
2 wherein the group of filaments is wound onto the core member continuously from the
3 proximal end of the core member to a distal end thereof and then back to the proximal
4 end.

Claim 4. (Cancelled).

1 5. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim
2 28, wherein the core member is a mandrel on which the catheter is formed.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim

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2 28, wherein the core member is a substrate that forms an inner lining of the catheter.

Claims 7 to 23. (Cancelled).

1 24. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim
2 28, wherein said group of filaments are wound with a variable pitch such that a filament
3 group spacing at a distal end of the core member is narrower than a filament group
4 spacing at a proximal end of the core member.

Claims 25 to 27. (Cancelled).

1 28. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps
2 of:
3 winding a filament onto a core member while rotating the core member relative to
4 a filament source and passing the filament source in a first direction of axial movement
5 relative to the core member; and
6 reversing a direction of axial movement of the filament source while continuing to
7 wind the filament onto the core member, whereby the filament is continuously wound
8 onto the core member to form a first fibrous layer as the filament source is moved relative
9 to the core member from a first axial position to a second axial position and then back to
10 the first axial position;

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11 wherein said step of winding a filament comprises winding a group of filaments
12 simultaneously; and
13 further comprising the step of providing a guide assembly having a filament
14 engaging surface, and arranging said guide assembly such that the filament engaging
15 surface lies in a plane which is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core
16 member, whereby the guide assembly causes the filaments within said group of filaments
17 to be positioned side-by-side and packed tightly against one another as the group of
18 filaments are wound onto the core member; and
19 further comprising the step of passing the group of filaments through the guide
20 assembly to orient the group of filaments into the plane which is generally perpendicular
21 to the longitudinal axis of the core member, and causing the filaments to be naturally
22 reoriented into a plane which is generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the core
23 member and packed tightly against one another as the group of filaments are wound onto
24 the core member.

1 29. (Original) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28, further
2 comprising the step of varying a rotation speed of the core member or a translation speed
3 of the filament source along the core member to vary a pitch of the group of filaments
4 being wound onto the core member.

Claim 30. (Cancelled).

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1 31. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim
2 36, further comprising the step of varying a rotation speed of the core member or a
3 translation speed of the source of filaments along the core member to vary a pitch of the
4 group of filaments being wound onto the core member.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim
2 36, wherein said group of filaments are wound with a variable pitch such that a filament
3 group spacing at a distal end of the core member is narrower than a filament group
4 spacing at a proximal end of the core member.

Claims 33 to 35. (Cancelled).

1 36. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps
2 step of:
3 winding a group of filaments simultaneously onto a core member while rotating
4 the core member relative to a source of said filaments and passing the source of filaments
5 in a first direction of axial movement relative to the core member;
6 ~~further comprising the step of~~ providing a guide assembly having a filament
7 engaging surface, and arranging said guide assembly such that the filament engaging
8 surface lies in a plane which is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core
9 member, whereby the guide assembly causes the filaments within said group of filaments

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10 to be positioned side-by-side and packed tightly against one another as the group of
11 filaments are wound onto the core member; and
12 passing the group of filaments through the guide assembly to orient the group of
13 filaments into the plane which is generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the
14 core member, and causing the filaments to be naturally reoriented into a plane which is
15 generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the core member and packed tightly against
16 one another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core member.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim
2 36, further comprising the step of reversing a direction of axial movement of the source
3 of filaments relative to the core member while continuing to wind the group of filaments
4 onto the core member, whereby the filaments are continuously wound onto the core
5 member as the source of filaments is moved relative to the core member from a first axial
6 position to a second axial position and then back to the first axial position.

Claims 38 to 50. (Cancelled).

1 51. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps
2 of:
3 anchoring a group of filaments to a core member at a proximal end of the catheter;
4 winding the group of filaments simultaneously onto the core member while

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5 rotating the core member relative to a filament source and passing the filament source in a
6 first direction of axial movement relative to the core member toward a distal end of the
7 catheter; and

8 reversing a direction of axial movement of the filament source while continuing to
9 wind the group of filaments simultaneously onto the core member, whereby the group of
10 filaments are continuously wound onto the core member to form a fibrous layer as the
11 filament source is moved relative to the core member from the proximal end to the distal
12 end and then back to the proximal end;

13 ~~The method of making a catheter according to claim 50;~~ further comprising the
14 step of passing the group of filaments through a guide assembly to orient the group of
15 filaments into a plane which is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core
16 member, and causing the filaments to be naturally reoriented into a plane which is
17 generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the core member and packed tightly against
18 one another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core member.